

## House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

### Williams Disappointed in Tax Reform Defeat



State Representative Sean Williams (R- Watertown) today expressed his “great disappointment” in the Democratic majority’s unwillingness to adopt several procedural reforms proposed by House Republicans during the opening day of the 2005 legislative session. A key reform proposal that was defeated would have

required the legislature to hold a public hearing before voting on or enacting any tax increases.

“Today, the House Republican caucus offered a number of proposals that would have opened Connecticut government up to the taxpayers and voters who elected us,” Rep. Williams said. “Since many legislative Democrats are talking about raising taxes this year in order to solve the budget deficit, it would have been appropriate to give the taxpayers a public forum where they can speak loudly and clearly and tell their elected representatives that we are already overtaxed in Connecticut and cannot afford any more taxes.”

House Democrats defeated a number of other Republican reform proposals, including:

- Ending legislative sessions at midnight
- Consolidating the legislature’s 27 committees
- Conducting budget negotiations in public
- Requiring legislation to be published 72 hours before a floor vote

Williams concluded by saying, “The House of Representatives had an opportunity today to open the legislative process to the public, but the Democratic leadership slammed the door on these proposals. I am hopeful that this is not an indication of things to come in the coming session.”